

Article for Enterprise 05.15.2012

There is an abundance of activity around Swanton this spring. The schools are buzzing with numerous end of the year events, which keeps parents busy as well. Throughout the village, spring involves annual clean up of our parks and village properties.

The semi annual junk drop off at our streets department location on Bassett Ave. was this past Saturday, and if you were unable to make it there, another day will be scheduled in the fall. We will post that date again on village water bills and also on the sign board at Village Hall. Also, Swanton local school students will be conducting a village wide trash pick up this coming Saturday starting at 8:30 AM and ending two hours later at Memorial Park where festivities will be held to kick off the Parks and Recreation summer programs.

The village employees are hard at work with many projects to improve the appearance of our town. Pruning, trimming, mowing and weed control take much time but make such a difference in overall appearance. They have also painted benches and will be doing tree trimming in weeks to come. It is my hope to have the streetscape, village parks and properties looking top notch when we have thousands of people coming into town to enjoy our fabulous fireworks on June 30.

Any citizens who are interested in helping plant flowers in town in the coming two weeks in the evening should call my village office (419.826.0335) and leave me your name and phone number. I am looking for volunteers to plant flowers in the concrete urns and other areas.

Residents should be mindful that the village does have ordinances that directly address and prohibit un-mowed grasses and weeds, and a nuisance ordinance prohibiting debris and junk to be stored or displayed on properties in the village. Also, there have been many problems reported regarding unleashed dogs in Memorial Park with owners allowing them to run free on the ball diamonds and the horseshoe pits depositing their "business" with the owners failing to pick up after them. Please help keep our athletic fields clean for our children to play on and be aware that tickets will be issued for violators.

It is my goal to continue clean up and landscape projects throughout the summer and fall in order to enhance not only the physical appearance of the village, but to instill a sense of cooperation and community pride that will inspire all home and business owners to maintain and improve their properties whether it be their houses, buildings, or yards. More importantly, it is imperative for each of us to help our neighbors who may be unable to do the physical work themselves. Children should be encouraged to lend a hand in tasks that benefit their village, their family, and neighbors in order to experience the true sense of accomplishment and self esteem that being part of a solution can provide.

If you desire specific projects that you, your family, or any group could assist us in, please call the village offices and leave a message for me at 419.826.0335.

Remember, too, that everyone is invited this Saturday (May 19) to the Swanton Fire Department on Church Street for Public Safety Day to tour the fire house, meet your public safety officials, and enjoy a hot dog while the kids participate in many activities with the firemen that will be good fun and great safety tips for all ages.